

2015 Annual TBA Convention Honey and Photography Rules

from Mark Hedley

The Texas Beekeepers Association will conduct the honey and photo contest during the Annual Convention in Belton on October 29 - 31. Judging will take place beginning Saturday morning with results presented on Saturday evening at the Awards Banquet.

General Entry Requirements:

1. You may register and pay by credit card or PayPal on-line at texasbeekeepers.org while registering for the convention. Bring your Honey and Photo contest entry ticket(s) with your entry/entries to the registration table. Alternatively, remove (or print) the newsletter entry form below if you do not have Internet access. We accept photocopies.
2. When registering on-line, purchase one ticket per entry in the honey or photo contest. Alternatively, use one manual form for each contest entry. Only one entry per category allowed per contestant.
3. Remove identifying label or markers from entry, with the exception of the two additional containers required for a "Black Jar" entry (See Black Jar Entry Requirements)
4. Contest administrators will affix coded tabs to entries upon submission.
5. Entry deadline: At the convention contest headquarters, 1:00 pm Friday, October 30, 2015. Contest Entry Fees: Honey \$5.00 per entry, Photo \$3.00 per entry.
6. Disposition of Entries: Winning entries will be retained by the Texas Beekeepers Association and sold during our fund-raising event. Owners of non-winning entries may donate their entries to the fundraiser, or retain them at the end of the competition.

Polished Honey Entry Requirements:

1. Submit extracted honey entries in one-pound Queenline glass jars.
2. Contestants may only submit honey entries produced in their own apiary or by bees that they manage in a different state for honey production or pollination (see also Black Jar – Non Local Category).
3. If donating entries to the Fund Raising Auction, submit any labels and floral source information desired in a separate envelope for attachment at contest conclusion.

"Black Jar" Honey Entry Requirements:

1. Entries must be submitted by a beekeeper and be pure unadulterated honey produced by his or her own bees.
2. An "Entry" consists of three (3) containers of any style (8 ounces or more) of the same honey.
3. Submit one of the three entry samples in a container without any identifying marks; while the other two must have the beekeeper's label attached as he or she would when offering their honey for sale. None of the three entries will be returned. The labeled containers will be sold as a fund-raiser for the Texas Beekeepers Association while promoting the individual beekeeper or apiary.

Photo Entry Requirements:

1. TBA may retain digital copies of entries for permanent TBA archives. Photographer submitting an entry retains all legal copyrights. Contest administrators will return all entries at the convention upon completion of archiving process. The first place photo entry will be featured on a 2016 TBA Journal cover.
2. Judges will evaluate all entries in a class, regardless of black and white, color, or slide format. Photographers may submit any size entry with a maximum size of 8"x10".
3. Entries in "Our Glorious Honey Bee" should depict honey bees in their natural environment depicting some element of honey bee behavior, science, or history or any aspect of beekeeping that contains a honey bee in the photo.
4. Photographers may only submit photos taken personally.

Contest Judging – General

1. Contest judges will evaluate and score entries on Saturday, October 31st, 2015.
2. Contest Committee Chairman will announce awards Saturday, October 31st, at the Awards Banquet.

2015 Annual Convention Honey and Photography Contest Rules (contd.)

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HONEY JUDGING CRITERIA

Contest Judging – Polished Honey - Judges may award points to entries in the following categories for a possible 100 points:

Polished Honey	
Container Appearance	10
Level of Fill	10
Free of Foreign Matter	10
Brightness	10
Free of Air Bubbles and Foam	20
Flavor	40
Total Points	100

Contest Judging – “Black Jar” – Judges will award First, Second, and Third place to entries in categories based on blind tastings. Judges will not see the color, clarity, or any visual appeal of the honey. It is a contest based on flavor profile and taste alone. A panel of judges will taste test and score the honey entries individually, awarding points to each entry. Total Points determine placement.

Best Local Blend	(example blend: wildflower, mesquite, native brush, tallow, etc)
Best Local Varietal	(example at least 45% from one source: tallow, cotton, native brush, wildflower, etc)
Best Non-Local Blend	(example: Clover, Canola, Orange, Sourwood, etc blends)
Best Non-Local Varietal	(example: at least 45% from one source: Clover, Canola, Orange, Sourwood, etc.)
Exotic	(It still has to come from your own bees, and really be honey)

PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGING CRITERIA

Contest Judging – Photography – Our Glorious Honey Bee - Judges may award points to entries in the following categories for a possible 100 points:

Photography – Our Glorious Honey Bee	
Relevancy to Topic	25
Composition / Arrangement	15
Focus / Sharpness	20
Lighting	15
Creativity	25
Total Points	100

AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS

TBA will present awards ribbons and a check to First (\$50), Second (\$25), and Third Place (\$15) winners in each black jar honey category based on total points earned. TBA will present award ribbons to First, Second, and Third place winners in each Polished and Photography category. Contest administrators may segregate Polished honey by color categories based on volume of contest entries.

All First, Second and Third place entries will be displayed on the top tier of our special display platform after judging and awards presentation and will remain in view for convention attendees.

Convention Grand Champion: A special award will be presented to the contestant with the highest total points across all entries.

Convention Reserve Champion: A special award will be presented to the contestant with the second highest total points across all entries.